



James Leo Sutterer

August 11, 1948 - September 25, 2024

Jim Sutterer Obituary

A Beacon of Light Extinguished

James (Jim) Sutterer, a man who knew no strangers and whose smile could light up a room, passed away peacefully on September 25th, 2024 at the age of 76 with family by his side.

A Veteran of the Vietnam War, Jim served his country with courage and determination. He returned with an Army Commendation Medal, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Good Conduct Medal, and suffered the loss of a dear friend, yet his spirit remained unbroken. Jim was a member of V.F.W. #4282, American Legion #133, AmVets #94, River Hills Eagles Aerie #4034, Little Saline Club, Knights of Columbus Council #1263 and the Perry Dice Boat Club. A lover of horseback riding, boating, ATVs, convertible and motorcycle rides, and adventures with best friends, he lived life to the fullest. Always standing by his side, his loving bride, Velma.

A dedicated public servant, Jim served as County Commissioner for 12 years and spent much time with comrades at the Missouri National Veterans' Memorial. His strong work ethic and unwavering determination from childhood led him and his brothers, with little resources, to build a shop that still stands

today. It bonded them and formed lifelong friendships, here they would build bikes from scrap and fix up old cars, including his pride and joy, "Wagon", his '55 Chevy. He was always tinkering and devoted his time to the greater joys in life. A devoted father and grandfather, he cherished his family and friends with equal measure. He always showed up for his grandkids and never turned away an opportunity to spend time with them.

A devout Catholic, and member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church he found solace in his faith and was often seen enjoying life's simple pleasures, like camping and piddling around his farms. Jim had a heart of gold and was always there to lend a helping hand.

A man of many talents, Jim quickly became skilled at anything he decided to take up. His adventurous spirit led him on countless expeditions. He also loved spending time with friends and family with his trusty steed by his side. He showed us that you can do anything that you set your mind to, no matter the circumstances.

Jim faced many trials in his time with us that helped mold him into the man we all grew to love. With those trials, came grit and independence, which was an inspiration to anyone who knew him. Jim's life was a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him".

Jim is survived by his loving and care giving wife, Velma; his children, Chad (Liz) Sutterer, Kim (Austin) Elder, and Kurt (Ashley) Sutterer; his grandchildren Kennedy, Brooke, and Willow Sutterer, Trenton and Katelyn Elder, Grady and Bo Sutterer. He is also survived by his siblings; Barb Klump, Ginny (Stanley) Schweiss, Tom Sutterer and Denny (Joyce) Sutterer, sister-in-law; Joan Sutterer.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Elfrieda (Buchheit) Sutterer, his brother Rick Sutterer, and brother-in-law Allen Klump. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

As the saying goes, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." May Jim live eternally in peace, knowing that his legacy of kindness, courage, and unwavering spirit will live on. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

Funeral Arrangements:

Visitation will be from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursday, October 3, 2024 and will continue from 9:00 am to 9:45 am on Friday, October 4, 2024 at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic in Perryville.

Funeral Mass will be at 10:00 am Friday, October 4, 2024 at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Perryville with Rev. Joe Geders C.M. officiating.

Burial will be at Mount Hope Cemetery in Perryville.

Military Honors will be provided by Delta Team and VFW Post #4282.

Memorial contributions may be given to Missouri's National Veterans Memorial or the Ladies Of Charity Food Pantry.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandyoungfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Young Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Mount Hope Cemetery

Perryville, MO

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 3. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church (Perryville)
1000 Rosati Court
Perryville, MO 63775

Visitation

OCT 4. 8:00 AM - 9:45 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church (Perryville)
1000 Rosati Court
Perryville, MO 63775

Funeral Mass

OCT 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church (Perryville)
1000 Rosati Court
Perryville, MO 63775

Tribute Wall

BA

“ *My Dear Velma,
So sorry to hear of your loss. Times like these are so difficult and I
send you peace and condolences. Becky (Hoehne) Anderson*

Becky Anderson - October 18, 2024 at 09:54 AM

LW

“ *Velma and family .. I am truly sorry to hear of your loss. What a
wonderful man Jim was. I am thrilled to have known him, my third
cousin. Always a smile on his face and the best guy I've had the
pleasure of knowing. Take care .. you all are in my thoughts and
prayers. Hugnxx Linda & Bob Wiley (Marge Markway's sister)*

Linda Wiley - October 03, 2024 at 07:21 PM

RB

“ *God gives each of us gifts, and Jim had the gift of "welcome". When
he greeted you he made you feel very special, as if you were his
long lost friend. His smile just made people feel good. He will be
missed in our church and our community. Thoughts and prayers are
with Velma and his children.*

Renee and Glen Brueckner

Renee Brueckner - October 03, 2024 at 11:05 AM

JP

“ *What a great guy Jim was. Jim was the type of guy that you wish could live forever. His smile and hugs would warm my heart when I was having a bad day. Jim definitely had that positive attitude. Heaven is getting a very special angel. Rest in peace Jim and we all know you are smiling down on us. Will definitely cherish the great memories. You may be gone but you will be forever in our hearts.*

Judy Pike - October 03, 2024 at 09:33 AM

AU

“ *Velma and family, we are so sorry for your loss of Jim. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Alan & Mary Unterreiner - October 02, 2024 at 09:22 PM

TR

“ *Tim, Sherri, Jordan, Madi & Ella Ritter purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of James Leo Sutterer.*



Tim, Sherri, Jordan, Madi & Ella Ritter - October 02, 2024 at 11:09 AM

TR

“ *Tim, Sherri, Jordan, Madi & Ella Ritter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.*

Tim, Sherri, Jordan, Madi & Ella Ritter - October 02, 2024 at 11:09 AM

EC

“ Eileen Christian purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



Eileen Christian - October 01, 2024 at 10:16 PM

EC

“ Eileen Christian planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.

Eileen Christian - October 01, 2024 at 10:16 PM

LB

“ Love, Brent & Maura Buchheit purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



Love, Brent & Maura Buchheit - September 30, 2024 at 11:34 PM

LF

“ Love Tasha, Aaron, Greg and Our Families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



Love Tasha, Aaron, Greg and Our Families - September 30, 2024 at 08:21 PM

LF

“ Love Tasha, Aaron, Greg and Our Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.

Love Tasha, Aaron, Greg and Our Families - September 30, 2024 at 08:21 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



September 30, 2024 at 12:03 PM

CF

“ Chris, Darla, Emma, Rick and Ellie Frein planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.

Chris, Darla, Emma, Rick and Ellie Frein - September 30, 2024 at 12:03 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



September 30, 2024 at 11:57 AM

-F

“ - AT Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.

- AT Family - September 30, 2024 at 11:57 AM

SC

“ SEMO Regional Planning Commission purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of James Leo Sutterer.



SEMO Regional Planning Commission - September 30, 2024 at 11:30 AM

SC

“ SEMO Regional Planning Commission planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Leo Sutterer.

SEMO Regional Planning Commission - September 30, 2024 at 11:30 AM

BS

“ Prayers and condolences to Velma & family. I love all my cousins, but some just seem to stand out more and Jim was definitely one of those. God had a special mission for Jim in life and, no doubt, will continue in eternity. I recall vividly when Gary and I visited Jim in the hospital years ago after his first stroke. Walking in the room, his big brite smile seemed to draw us in. So chipper & welcoming. No matter when or where we saw him, it was always that great smile.



Betty Statler - September 30, 2024 at 08:58 AM

RL

“ I appreciate all the time I got to spend with him. He was a great man and great friend. We have always enjoyed our time spent with Sutter and his lovely wife Velma. My heart hurts for her we love you. Rodney and Tansy Lancaster and family ❤️



Rodney Lancaster - September 30, 2024 at 05:45 AM

DG

“ Velma and family, I am so sorry for the loss of Jim. He was one of a kind. That smile of his was so genuine . He never met a stranger. He fought so hard to heal himself. He never gave up when he wanted to accomplish his goal. Again I am sorry for loss. Deb Gerler.

Deb Gerler. - September 29, 2024 at 11:38 PM

BR

“ I have known Jim ever since I was a little girl and when I got older I got to babysit Chad, Kim & Kurt I will always remember seeing Jim he always gave me hugs and a sweet kiss. I will always cherish the memories.

Beverly Rayoum - September 29, 2024 at 08:46 PM

CB

“ I have known Jimmy since I was a child. He was a good family friend. His warm and welcoming smile will be greatly missed. Connie Brewer-Lewis

Connie Brewer-Lewis - September 29, 2024 at 04:58 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of James Leo Sutterer.*



September 29, 2024 at 11:16 AM



“ *There are many, many memories of Jim especially from high school & our neighbors garden/mud parties. We're sure you'll hear a lot of good ones! 💕💕 Bob & Sharon Moonier*

Sharon Moonier - September 29, 2024 at 08:12 AM



“ *My cousin Jim always had the wind at his back and was leaning forward,,,until Valhalla,,,RIP 👍🙏🇺🇸*

Tom Sutterer - September 29, 2024 at 12:10 AM